

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

Feb 27 2008

Suite 2500
300 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone (312) 360-0080
Facsimile (312) 360-9315

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

Facsimile Cover Sheet

To:	Corrected Filing Receipt	From:	Kevin W. Guynn
<u>Branch of USPTO</u>			
Fax:	1-571-273-8300	02-27-2008 U.S. Serial No. 10/567,539	
Your Ref:	Confirmation 9308	Our Ref:	4441-75877
Pages (including cover sheet) 23		Original Will <input type="checkbox"/>	Will Not <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Follow

 Urgent For Review Please Reply

IF THIS FACSIMILE IS RECEIVED INCOMPLETE, PLEASE CONTACT Tina Kiselka AT (312) 360-0080.

● Comments: A Request for Corrected Filing Receipt was filed on August 1, 2007 and we have not received any communication nor is the Corrected Filing Receipt showing up as a document on the PTO website.

Attached is a Status Inquiry.

Thank you.

The documents accompanying this facsimile transmission contain information that may be confidential or privileged and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. The information is intended to be for the use of the individual or entity named on this transmission sheet. If you are not the intended recipient, be aware that any disclosure, copying, distribution or use of the contents of this information is without authorization and is prohibited. If you have received this facsimile in error, please notify us by collect telephone immediately so that we can arrange for the retrieval of the original documents at no cost to you.

**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

FEB 27 2008

4441.75877

PATENT APPLICATION

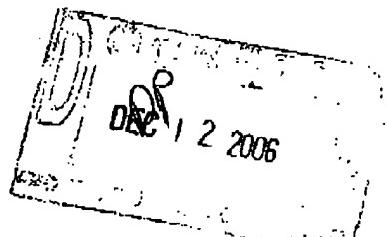
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re U.S. Patent Application of)
Applicant: Wilhelm Ardes)
Serial No.: 10/567,539)
Conf. No.: 9308)
Filed: February 7, 2006)
For: FLUID FILTER FOR AN INTERNAL)
COMBUSTION ENGINE)
Art Unit: Unassigned)
Examiner: Unassigned)

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST-CLASS mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop ASSIGNMENT RECORDATION SERVICES, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.

December 8, 2006
Date

Kevin W. Guynn
Registration No. 29,927
Attorney for Applicants



Mail Stop Assignment Recordation Services
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a communication regarding the above-identified application.

- (X) Form PTO-1595 (in duplicate) with a check for \$40.00.
- (X) Executed Assignment.
- (X) If a Petition under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) for an extension of time for response is required to make the attached response timely and does not separately accompany this transmittal, Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) for an extension of time for response in the above-identified application for the period required to make the attached response timely.
- (X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Customer No. 24978
December 8, 2006
300 South Wacker Drive
Suite 2500
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Tel: (312) 360-0080

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By:

Kevin W. Guynn
Reg. No. 29,927

4441-75877

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Wilhelm Ardes)
 Serial No.: 10/567,539) I hereby certify that this paper is being faxed to the U.S.
 Conf. No.: 9308) Patent & Trademark Office, on this date.
 Filed: 2/7/2006) February 27, 2008
 For: FLUID FILTER FOR AN INTERNAL...) Date Registration No. 29,927
 Art Unit: 3653) Attorney for Applicant(s)

Kevin W. Ardes
RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
FEB 27 2008

Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

STATUS INQUIRY

Dear Sir:

After speaking with Spencer from the PTO Patent Application Process Dept., he suggested that I fax the pertinent documentation to the PTO to get this issue resolved and obtain a revised Filing Receipt.

Attached is a copy of:

Request for Corrected Filing Receipt (dated 8/1/2007);

Filing Receipt;

Notice of Publication;

Assignment transmittal, Assignment recordation cover sheet, executed Assignment;

Preliminary Amendment filed with the application on February 7, 2007; and

Executed Declaration.

Since these were all typographical errors made by the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, no fees are required.

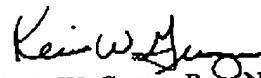
However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. Should no proper amount be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

February 27, 2008

300 South Wacker Drive
Suite 2500
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 360-0080
Customer No. 24978

Respectfully submitted,
GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By:


Kevin W. Guynn, Reg. No. 29,927

**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

FEB 27 2008

COPY FILE COPY

In re Patent of

Wilhelm Ardes

FLUID FILTER FOR AN INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE

Serial No.: 10/567,539

Filed: February 7, 2006

PATENT APPLICATION

KWG:keh

4441.75877

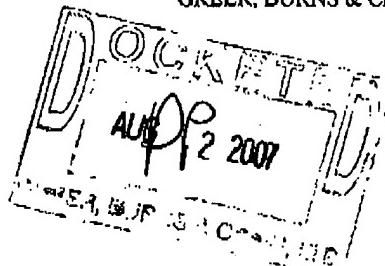
August 1, 2007

Enclosed is a Request for Corrected Filing Receipt (in duplicate); Certificate of First Class Mail; postcard

Commissioner for Patents

Please acknowledge receipt of the above-identified documents by applying the Patent and Trademark Office receipt hereto and mailing this card.

Respectfully,
GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

**In re Patent of**

Wilhelm Ardes

FLUID FILTER FOR AN INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE

Serial No.: 10/567,539

Filed: February 7, 2006

PATENT APPLICATION

KWG:keh

4441.75877

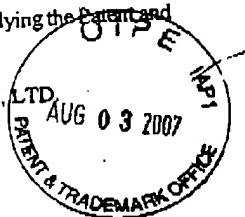
August 1, 2007

Enclosed is a Request for Corrected Filing Receipt (in duplicate); Certificate of First Class Mail; postcard

Commissioner for Patents

Please acknowledge receipt of the above-identified documents by applying the Patent and Trademark Office receipt hereto and mailing this card.

Respectfully,
GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.



**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

005/023

4441-75877

FEB 27 2008 RATELESS APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**FIL COPY**

Applicant: Wilhelm Ardes

Serial No.: 10/567,539

Conf. No.: 9308

Filed: 2/7/2006

For: FLUID FILTER FOR AN INTERNAL...

Art Unit: 3653

Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the
 United States Postal Service as FIRST-CLASS mail in an
 envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box
 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.

8/1-2007

Date

J. M. Keeler
 Registration No. 29,927
 Attorney for Applicant(s)



AUG 12 2007

REQUEST FOR CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT

Dear Sir:

Please correct the attached Filing Receipt (sent on 3/13/2007) and Notice of Publication (Publication No. US-2007-0125689-A1, Publication Date 06/07/2007) for the following reasons:

1. As shown on the attached Assignment Recordation Transmittal along with the Assignment, the "Assignee" should be:

HENGST GMBH & CO. KG (The Filing receipt shows *HENGST GMBH & CO. KO*);

Business Address on all filed documents state that the Assignee is located in Münster, Germany (the ü can be translated as "ue");

Also, the business address stated in the PTO documents, has the incorrect country listed as *German Democratic Republic*. This should be corrected to Münster, Germany (or Muenster, Germany).

2. The title of this application was changed from "LIQUID FILTER FOR AN INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE" to - FLUID FILTER FOR AN INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE- by way of a Preliminary Amendment (copy attached); and also the Declaration and the Assignment reflect the title change prior to filing with the U.S. Patent Office.

Since these are all typographical errors made by the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, no fees are required.

However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. Should no proper amount be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

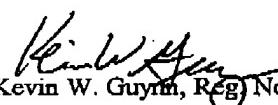
August 1, 2007

300 South Wacker Drive
Suite 2500
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 360-0080
Customer No. 24978

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By:


Kevin W. Guyrin, Reg. No. 29,927

Page 1 of 3



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
 United States Patent and Trademark Office
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPL NO.	FILING OR 371(C) DATE	ART UNIT	FIL FEE RECD	ATTY.DOCKET NO	TOT CLMS	IND CLMS
10/567,539	01/05/2007	3653	1080	09796503-0167 441-75877	21	2

CONFIRMATION NO. 9308

24978
 GREER, BURNS & CRAIN
 300 S WACKER DR
 25TH FLOOR
 CHICAGO, IL 60608

FILING RECEIPT



"OC000000022679460"

Date Mailed: 03/13/2007

Receipt is acknowledged of this regular Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please mail to the Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria Va 22313-1450. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

Applicant(s)

Wilhelm Ardes, Ascheberg, GERMANY;

Assignment For Published Patent Application

HENGST GMBH & CO. KO, Munster, GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Power of Attorney: The patent practitioners associated with Customer Number 24978.

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a 371 of PCT/EP04/08840 08/06/2004

15:16 10/19/2007

Foreign Applications

GERMANY 203 12 318.2 08/09/2003

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 02/27/2007

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is **US10/567,539**

Projected Publication Date: 08/07/2007

Non-Publication Request: No

Page 2 of 3

Early Publication Request: No**Title**

Liquid filter for an internal combustion engine

Preliminary Class

210

PROTECTING YOUR INVENTION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

Since the rights granted by a U.S. patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An International (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process simplifies the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but does not result in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

Almost every country has its own patent law, and a person desiring a patent in a particular country must make an application for patent in that country in accordance with its particular laws. Since the laws of many countries differ in various respects from the patent law of the United States, applicants are advised to seek guidance from specific foreign countries to ensure that patent rights are not lost prematurely.

Applicants also are advised that in the case of inventions made in the United States, the Director of the USPTO must issue a license before applicants can apply for a patent in a foreign country. The filing of a U.S. patent application serves as a request for a foreign filing license. The application's filing receipt contains further information and guidance as to the status of applicant's license for foreign filing.

Applicants may wish to consult the USPTO booklet, "General Information Concerning Patents" (specifically, the section entitled "Treaties and Foreign Patents") for more information on timeframes and deadlines for filing foreign patent applications. The guide is available either by contacting the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199, or it can be viewed on the USPTO website at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/doc/general/index.html>.

For information on preventing theft of your intellectual property (patents, trademarks and copyrights), you may wish to consult the U.S. Government website, <http://www.stopfakes.gov>. Part of a Department of Commerce initiative, this website includes self-help "toolkits" giving innovators guidance on how to protect intellectual property in specific countries such as China, Korea and Mexico. For questions regarding patent enforcement issues, applicants may call the U.S. Government hotline at 1-866-999-HALT (1-866-999-4158).

**LICENSE FOR FOREIGN FILING UNDER
Title 35, United States Code, Section 184
Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15****GRANTED**

The applicant has been granted a license under 35 U.S.C. 184, if the phrase "IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED" followed by a date appears on this form. Such licenses are issued in all applications where the conditions for issuance of a license have been met, regardless of whether or not a license may be required as set forth in 37 CFR 5.15. The scope and limitations of this license are set forth in 37 CFR 5.15(a) unless an earlier license has been issued under 37 CFR 5.15(b). The license is subject to revocation upon written notification. The date indicated is the effective date of the license, unless an earlier license of similar scope has been granted

Page 3 of 3

under 37 CFR 5.13 or 5.14.

This license is to be retained by the licensee and may be used at any time on or after the effective date thereof unless it is revoked. This license is automatically transferred to any related applications(s) filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d). This license is not retroactive.

The grant of a license does not in any way lessen the responsibility of a licensee for the security of the subject matter as imposed by any Government contract or the provisions of existing laws relating to espionage and the national security or the export of technical data. Licensees should apprise themselves of current regulations especially with respect to certain countries, of other agencies, particularly the Office of Defense Trade Controls, Department of State (with respect to Arms, Munitions and Implements of War (22 CFR 121-126)); the Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce (15 CFR parts 730-774); the Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of Treasury (31 CFR Parts 500+) and the Department of Energy.

NOT GRANTED

No license under 35 U.S.C. 184 has been granted at this time, if the phrase "IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED" DOES NOT appear on this form. Applicant may still petition for a license under 37 CFR 5.12, if a license is desired before the expiration of 6 months from the filing date of the application. If 6 months has lapsed from the filing date of this application and the licensee has not received any indication of a secrecy order under 35 U.S.C. 181, the licensee may foreign file the application pursuant to 37 CFR 5.15(b).



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
ADVOCACY SERVICES FOR PATENTS**COPY**

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(c) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
--------------------	-----------------------	-----------------------	------------------------

10/567,539

01/05/2007

Wilhelm Ardes

09798503-0167

J441-75877

CONFIRMATION NO. 9308

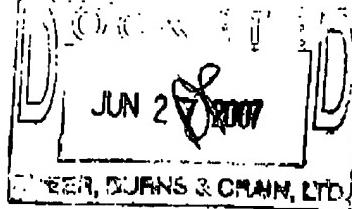
24978

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN
 300 S WACKER DR
 25TH FLOOR
 CHICAGO, IL60606

Title: Liquid filter for an internal combustion engine

Publication No. US-2007-0125689-A1

Publication Date: 06/07/2007

**COPY**

2007 JUN 18 PMR-BT

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF APPLICATION

The above-identified application will be electronically published as a patent application publication pursuant to 37 CFR 1.211, et seq. The patent application publication number and publication date are set forth above.

The publication may be accessed through the USPTO's publicly available Searchable Databases via the Internet at www.uspto.gov. The direct link to access the publication is currently <http://www.uspto.gov/patft/>.

The publication process established by the Office does not provide for mailing a copy of the publication to applicant. A copy of the publication may be obtained from the Office upon payment of the appropriate fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.19(a)(1). Orders for copies of patent application publications are handled by the USPTO's Office of Public Records. The Office of Public Records can be reached by telephone at (703) 308-9726 or (800) 972-6382, by facsimile at (703) 305-8759, by mail addressed to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Office of Public Records, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or via the Internet.

In addition, information on the status of the application, including the mailing date of Office actions and the dates of receipt of correspondence filed in the Office, may also be accessed via the Internet through the Patent Electronic Business Center at www.uspto.gov using the public side of the Patent Application Information and Retrieval (PAIR) system. The direct link to access this status information is currently <http://pair.uspto.gov>. Prior to publication, such status information is confidential and may only be obtained by applicant using the private side of PAIR.

Further assistance in electronically accessing the publication, or about PAIR, is available by calling the Patent Electronic Business Center at 703-305-3028.

Pre-Grant Publication Division, 703-605-4283

**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
FEB 27 2008**

.FORM PTO-1595

**RECORDATION FORM COVER SHEET
PATENTS ONLY**

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

(Rev. 8-93)
OMB No. 0651-0011 (exp. 4/94)

To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party:

Wilhelm Ardes

Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? Yes No

3. Nature of conveyance:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assignment | <input type="checkbox"/> Merger |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Security Agreement | <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Name |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | |

Execution Date: February 10, 2006

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)

Name: Hengst GmbH & Co. KG

Internal Address: _____

Street Address: Nienkamp 53-8548147 Münster, Germany

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Additional name(s) & address(es) attached: Yes No

4. Application number(s) or patent number(s):

If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: February 7, 2006

A. Patent Application No.(s)

10/567,539

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:

Name: Kevin W. Guynn
 Internal Address: Greer, Burns & Crain, Ltd.
300 South Wacker Drive
Suite 2500
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Additional name(s) & address(es) attached: Yes No6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41) \$ 40.00

 Enclosed Authorized to be charged to deposit account only in the event proper payment is not enclosed.

8. Deposit account number:

07-2069

(Attach duplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account)

DO NOT USE THIS SPACE

9. Statement and signature.
To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document.

Kevin W. Guynn
Name of Person Signing

Kevin W. Guynn
Signature

December 8, 2006

Date

2

[4441.75877]

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to:
 Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Box Assignments
 Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

FEB 27 2008

Docket No. 4441-75877

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, Wilhelm Ardes, residing at Albert-Koch-Str.21 B., 59387 Ascheberg, Germany and a citizen of Germany hereinafter referred to as ASSIGNOR, has invented and owns a certain invention entitled: "FLUID FILTER FOR AN INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE" for which application for a Letters Patent of the United States was filed on 02-07-01, and assigned Serial No. 10/567,539.

WHEREAS, Hengst GmbH & Co. KG, a company having a business at Nienkamp 53-85, 48147 Münster, Germany, hereinafter referred to as ASSIGNEE, is desirous of acquiring the entire interest in, to and under said invention and the United States Letters Patent to be obtained therefor:

NOW, THEREFORE, TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that in consideration of the payment by ASSIGNEE TO ASSIGNOR of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00), the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, and for other good and valuable consideration, ASSIGNOR hereby sells, assigns and transfers to ASSIGNEE the full and exclusive right, title and interest to said invention and all Letters Patent of the United States to be obtained therefor on said application or any continuation, division, renewal, substitute or reissue thereof for the full term or terms for which the same may be granted.

ASSIGNOR also assigns all of its right, title and interest in and to said invention in all foreign countries, and all applications for Letters Patent which may evolve therefrom, including the right to claim International Convention priority.

ASSIGNOR hereby covenants that no assignment, sale, agreement or encumbrance has been or will be made or entered into which would conflict with this assignment and sale.

ASSIGNOR further covenants that ASSIGNEE will, upon its request, be provided promptly with all pertinent facts and documents relating to said application, said invention and said Letters Patent as may be known and accessible to ASSIGNOR and ASSIGNOR will testify as to the same in any interference or litigation related thereto and will promptly execute and deliver to ASSIGNEE or its legal representative any and all papers, instruments or affidavits required to apply for, obtain, maintain and enforce said application, said invention and said Letters Patent which may be necessary or desirable to carry out the purposes hereof.

10 February 2008
Date


Wilhelm Ardes

12018180

COPY

BOX PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES ELECTED OFFICE
OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY-CHAPTER II

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COPY

APPLICANT: Wilhelm Ardes

ATTORNEYS DOCKET NO.: 09796503-0167

SERIAL NO:

GROUP ART UNIT:

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO: PCT/EP2004/00840

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: 6 August 2004

INVENTION: "LIQUID FILTER FOR AN INTERNAL COMBUSTION
ENGINE"

Mail Stop - PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

This Preliminary Amendment is being made to conform the application to U.S. style and practice. No new matter is introduced. Amendments to the "Title" is made at page 2 of this document, in the "Specification" are noted at page 3 of this paper and Amendments to the "Claims" begin at page 4 of this paper.

IN THE TITLE:

Amend the Title of the application as follows:

FLUID [LIQUID] FILTER FOR AN INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace English translation specification with the enclosed substitute specification which includes section headings.

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
FEB 27 2008

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-14 CANCELLED.

Cancel claims 1-14 without prejudice and replace them with new claims 15-35 as follows:

15. (New) A fluid filter used with an associated apparatus having a companion mounting flange, comprising:

a filter socket having a mounting flange that can, in a sealing manner, be connected to the companion flange on the associated apparatus to form a flange connection,

at least one fluid duct for supplying fluid to be filtered from the apparatus to the fluid filter and one fluid duct for discharging filtered fluid from the filter to the apparatus extending through said flange connection,

a sealing plate arranged to close off at least one section of at least one of said fluid ducts, said sealing plate having at least one through opening that is sealed against the companion flange and being arranged flush with an apparatus-side fluid duct,

a surface area of said sealing plate, as seen on a plane of said flange connection, being smaller than a surface area of said mounting flange, and

said sealing plate being inserted in said filter socket in a sealing manner and forming a part of said filter socket.

16. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 15, wherein said fluid filter comprises an oil or fuel filter for an internal combustion engine.

17. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 15, wherein at least two separate sealing plates are provided, one sealing plate being allocated to each of said at least two fluid ducts extending through said flange connection.

18. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 15, wherein, as a third fluid duct, an unpressurized drain duct arranged to drain the fluid filter upon replacement of a filter element of the filter extends through said flange connection.

19. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 18, wherein at least three separate sealing plates are provided, one sealing plate being allocated to each of said at least three fluid ducts extending through said flange connection.

20. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 15, wherein said filter socket and said sealing plate are formed as plastic parts and said sealing plate is one of welded and glued to said filter socket.

21. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 20, wherein said sealing plate, at its through opening, is provided with a pipe socket having a radially acting sealing ring, wherein said pipe socket projects towards the companion flange and can be inserted in an apparatus-side fluid duct.

22. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 15, wherein said filter socket and said sealing plate are formed as parts made of one of plastic and metal, and a sealing ring is inserted between said filter socket and said sealing plate.

23. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 22, wherein said sealing ring acts radially.

24. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 23, wherein said radially acting sealing rings are standard O-rings.

25. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 22, wherein said sealing ring acts axially.

26. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 22, wherein said sealing plate, at its through opening, is provided with an axially acting sealing ring surrounding said through opening and projecting in a direction of the companion flange.

27. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 15, wherein a peripheral axially acting seal is provided in parallel to an outer contour of said mounting flange and arranged therein, said seal enclosing said through opening.

28. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 27, wherein said seal simultaneously seals the fluid duct in the flange connection that is not extending through said through opening in said sealing plate.

29. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 27, wherein the fluid duct not extending through said through opening in said sealing plate is separately sealed by its own sealing means and said seal encloses the fluid duct in said flange connection not extending through said through opening in said sealing plate.

30. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 26, wherein said axially acting seal is a sectional seal.

31. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 20, wherein said plastic is polyamide and said filter socket and said sealing plate are produced as injection-molded parts.

32. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 22, wherein said metal is one of aluminum and magnesium and said filter socket and said sealing plate are produced as die casting parts.

33. (New) An oil or fuel filter for an internal combustion engine, wherein the engine has a companion mounting flange, said filter comprising:

a filter socket with a mounting flange that can, in a sealing manner, be connected to the companion flange to form a flange connection,

at least one fluid duct for supplying fluid to be filtered from the engine to the fluid filter, one fluid duct for discharging filtered fluid from the filter to the engine, and a third fluid duct, being an unpressurized drain duct for draining the fluid filter upon replacement of a filter element, extending through said flange connection,

a sealing plate arranged to close off at least one section of at least one of said fluid ducts, said sealing plate having at least one through opening that is sealed against the companion flange and being arranged flush with an engine-side fluid duct,

a surface area of said sealing plate, as seen on a plane of said flange connection, being smaller than a surface area of said mounting flange, and

said sealing plate being inserted in said filter socket in a sealing manner and forming a part of said filter socket.

() ()

34. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 33, wherein three separate sealing plates are provided, wherein one sealing plate being allocated to said at least three fluid ducts extending through said flange connection.

35. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 34, wherein said filter socket and said sealing plate are parts made of plastic or of metal and said sealing plates are inserted into said filter socket and fixed therein, with one of a peripheral, radially and axially acting sealing ring being placed intermediate the filter socket and each of said sealing plates.

REMARKS

The new claims are being presented to place the application into standard U.S. format.
No new matter has been added.

Applicant looks forward to early and favorable consideration of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin W. Guynn (Reg. No. 29,927)
Kevin W. Guynn
SONNENSCHEIN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP
Customer Account No. 26263
P.O. Box 061080 - Wacker Drive Station
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone (312) 876-2886
Attorneys for Applicant

SONNENSCHEIN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP
P.O. Box #061080
Wacker Drive Station-Sears Tower
Chicago, Illinois 60606-1080
(312)876-2886

I hereby certify that this document and any being referred to as attached or enclosed is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail EV 343258705US in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop - PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

2-7-2006
Date

J. Kiseka
Signature

12018085

02/27/2008 14:42 FAX 312 360 9315
13/12 2008 12:05 FAX +49 251 232675

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD
PA SCHULZE HORN

+ GREER

022/023
002/003

CCPY

4441-75877

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare:

That my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

That I verify believe I am the original and first inventor(s) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

"FLUID FILTER FOR AN INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE"

the specification of which (check one)

[] is attached hereto.
[X] was filed on 02/07/2006, as
[X] Application Serial No. 10/567,539
and was amended on _____
(if applicable)

That I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

That I acknowledge the duty to disclose information known to be material to patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a).

That I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) or patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate on this invention having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)

Priority Claimed

DE 203 12 318.2

August 9, 2003

That I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §119 and/or §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

Prior United States Application(s)

(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status)-(Patented, pending, abandoned)
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status)-(Patented, pending, abandoned)
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status)-(Patented, pending, abandoned)

That all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

02/27/2008 14:43 FAX 312 360 9315
13/12 2008 12:05 FAX +49 251 232675

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD

PA SCHULZE HORN

+ GREER

023/023

003/003

I hereby appoint Kevin W. Guyan (Reg. 29,927), following attorneys and agents listed under Customer No. 24978, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, and request that all correspondence and telephone calls in respect to this application be directed to Kevin W. Guyan at GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD., Suite 2500, 300 South Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60606, Telephone No. (312) 360-0080.

Address for Correspondence:

Kevin W. Guyan, Esq.
GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.
300 S. Wacker Drive - Suite 2500
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Tel.: (312) 360-0080
Fax: (312) 360-9315
Customer No.: 24978

Full name of first inventor

Wilhelm Ardes

Inventor's signature:

12.12.2006

Date:

Albert-Koch-Str. 21B

Residence and Post Office Address:

S9387 Ascheberg

GERMANY

Citizenship:

GERMAN